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TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application	09/856,212	
	Filing Date	May 18, 2002	
	First Named	NAKAMURA et al.	
	Group Art Unit	1765	
	Examiner Name	Unknown	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	82821

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ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Gerald T. Shekleton Welsh & Katz, Ltd.
Signature	<i>Gerald T. Shekleton</i>
Date	3/19/03

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Patent Application Of)

NAKAMURA et al.)

Serial No.: 09/856,212)

Filing Date: May 18, 2001)

For: **PRODUCTION METHOD FOR**)
SILICON SINGLE CRYSTAL AND)
PRODUCTION DEVICE FOR)
SINGLE CRYSTAL INGOT, AND)
HEAT TREATING METHOD FOR)
SILICON SINGLE CRYSTAL WAFER)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents is disclosed on the attached Form PTO-1449 that may be material to the examination of this application. The listed Documents are enclosed herewith.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. In addition, none of the documents that have publication dates prior to the priority date of the above application anticipate the invention in this application.

The cited document(s) disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the document(s) and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any document(s) herein is not to be construed

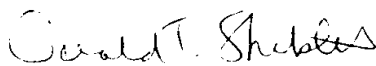
Serial No. 09/856,212

as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and document(s) recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application. The recitation herein of the art and document(s) is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

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Dated: March 18, 2003
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